

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3616

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Bear River National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bear River National
3 Heritage Area Study Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **HERITAGE AREA.**—The term “Heritage
7 Area” means the Bear River National Heritage
8 Area.

9 (2) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior.

11 (3) **STATES.**—The term “States” means the
12 States of Utah and Idaho.

13 (4) **STUDY AREA.**—The term “study area”
14 means—

15 (A) areas in the States that are within the
16 main drainage area of the Bear River;

17 (B) all of Cache, Box Elder, and Rich
18 Counties in the State of Utah, and Bear Lake,
19 Caribou, Franklin, and Oneida Counties in the
20 State of Idaho;

21 (C) the following communities in Utah:
22 Bear River, Brigham City, Corinne, Deweyville,
23 Elwood, Fielding, Garland, Honeyville, Howell,
24 Mantua, Perry, Plymouth, Portage, Snowville,
25 Tremonton, Willard, Amalga, Clarkston, Cor-
26 nish, Hyde Park, Hyrum, Lewiston, Logan,

1 Mendon, Millville, Newton, Nibley, North
2 Logan, Paradise, Providence, Richmond, River
3 Heights, Smithfield, Trenton, Wellsville, Garden
4 City, Laketown, Randolph, and Woodruff;

5 (D) the following communities in Idaho:
6 Malad, Clifton, Dayton, Franklin, Preston, Ox-
7 ford, Weston, Bancroft, Soda Springs, Grace,
8 Bloomington, Paris, Georgetown, Montpelier,
9 and St. Charles; and

10 (E) any other areas in the States that—

11 (i) have heritage aspects that are
12 similar to the areas described in subpara-
13 graphs (A), (B), (C), or (D); and

14 (ii) are adjacent to, or in the vicinity
15 of, those areas.

16 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
18 with State and local organizations and governmental agen-
19 cies, Tribal governments, non-profit organizations, and
20 other appropriate entities, shall conduct a study to assess
21 the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area
22 as a National Heritage Area, to be known as the “Bear
23 River National Heritage Area”.

1 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall include anal-
2 ysis, documentation, and determinations on whether the
3 study area—

4 (1) has an assemblage of natural, historic, and
5 cultural resources that—

6 (A) represent distinctive aspects of the
7 people and cultures of the United States;

8 (B) are worthy of recognition, conserva-
9 tion, interpretation, and continuing use; and

10 (C) would be best managed—

11 (i) through partnerships among public
12 and private entities; and

13 (ii) by linking diverse and sometimes
14 noncontiguous resources and active com-
15 munities;

16 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and
17 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the
18 United States;

19 (3) provides outstanding opportunities—

20 (A) to conserve natural, historic, cultural,
21 or scenic features; and

22 (B) for recreation and education;

23 (4) contains resources that—

24 (A) are important to any identified themes
25 of the study area; and

1 (B) retain a degree of integrity capable of
2 supporting interpretation;

3 (5) includes residents, business interests, non-
4 profit organizations, and State, local, and Tribal
5 governments, and other appropriate entities that—

6 (A) are involved in the planning of the
7 Heritage Area;

8 (B) have developed a conceptual financial
9 plan that outlines the roles of all participants in
10 the Heritage Area, including the Federal Gov-
11 ernment; and

12 (C) have demonstrated support for the des-
13 ignation of the Heritage Area;

14 (6) has a potential management entity to work
15 in partnership with the individuals and entities de-
16 scribed in paragraph (5) to develop the Heritage
17 Area while encouraging State and local economic ac-
18 tivity;

19 (7) could impact the rights of private property
20 owners with respect to their private property; and

21 (8) has a conceptual boundary map that is sup-
22 ported by the public.

23 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

24 Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds
25 are first made available to carry out this Act, the Sec-

1 retary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Re-
2 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
3 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
4 a report that describes—

5 (1) the findings of the study under section 3;

6 and

7 (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the
8 Secretary.

 Passed the House of Representatives November 2,
2021.

Attest:

Clerk.

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